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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 TOWARD RESPONSIBLE
11 DEVELOPMENT, et al.,

12 Petitioners,

13 v.

14 CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND, et al.,

15 Respondents.

CASE NO. C10-1826JLR

ORDER REMANDING STATE
LAW CLAIMS

16 On January 10, 2011, the court ordered the parties to show cause why the court
17 should not bifurcate Petitioners' Washington Land Use Petition Act ("LUPA") claims
18 from their federal civil rights claims, remand the LUPA claims based on state law to King
19 County Superior Court, and stay discovery on the civil rights claims pending resolution
20 of the LUPA claims in state court. (Dkt. # 54.) The parties have filed timely briefs in
21 response to the court's order. (Dkt. ## 55 (Br. of Respondent King County), 57 (Br. of
22 Respondents BD Lawson Partners, LP, and BD Village Partners, LP (collectively,

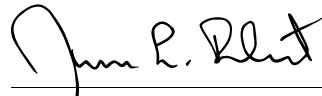
1 “Yarrow Bay”)), 59 (Br. of Petitioners), 60 (Br. of Respondent the City of Black
 2 Diamond (“Black Diamond”))). All parties represent that they either agree with or take
 3 no position regarding the court’s proposal to bifurcate the LUPA claims, remand the
 4 claims based on state law, and stay discovery. They disagree, however, about whether
 5 the court should stay all proceedings in this court pending the state court’s resolution of
 6 the LUPA claims.

7 The Land Use Petition alleges 22 claims of error in Black Diamond’s approval of
 8 two development projects. (Land Use Petition (Not. of Removal (Dkt. # 1) at 12-39) ¶¶
 9 7.1-7.22.) Two of these claims allege that Black Diamond’s approval of the projects
 10 violated federal law. (*Id.* ¶¶ 7.1 (alleging that the city’s processes “violated the
 11 petitioners’ constitutional right of free speech, their right to petition their elected
 12 representatives, and their right to due process”), 7.6 (alleging that the ordinances
 13 approving the projects unconstitutionally preempt changes in federal law by “purport[ing]
 14 to vest the project to current stormwater regulations”).) In addition, Petitioners ask the
 15 court to find that the Black Diamond’s approval process violated 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and to
 16 award them attorney’s fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988. (*Id.* ¶¶ 8.4, 8.7.) Respondents
 17 removed the action to this court based on federal question jurisdiction. (Not. of Removal
 18 at 1 (citing 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441(a) & 1331).)

19 The supplemental jurisdiction statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1367(c)(2), provides that “the
 20 district courts may decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over a claim . . . if the
 21 claim substantially predominates over the claim or claims over which the district court
 22 has original jurisdiction.” Having reviewed the Land Use Petition and the submissions of

1 the parties, the court finds that the Washington state law claims substantially predominate
2 over the federal claims, and that it is therefore appropriate for the court to decline to
3 exercise supplemental jurisdiction over Petitioners' claims based on state law. Because
4 all parties agree that remand of Petitioners' state law claims is appropriate, the court sees
5 no reason to delay its order remanding those claims. Accordingly, the court REMANDS
6 Petitioners' LUPA claims based on state law to King County Superior Court. The court
7 reserves ruling on the scope of the stay of the proceedings in this court until after briefing
8 on the order to show cause is complete.

9 Dated this 20th day of January, 2011.

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12 JAMES L. ROBART
13 United States District Judge
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